

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A muffler comprising:

a muffler body;

an upstream pipe, an end portion thereof is opened  
5 in the muffler body;

a downstream pipe, an end portion thereof is opened  
in the muffler body; and

an opening formed in a side face of the downstream  
pipe in the muffler body, the opening being formed in an  
10 elongated area extending substantially along a main axis  
of the downstream pipe.

2. The muffler of claim 1, wherein the elongated area  
is directionally stretched in a circumferential direction  
15 of the downstream pipe and is evenly distributed in a  
substantial main axis direction of the downstream pipe.

3. The muffler of claim 1, wherein the elongated area  
is a belt-like area.

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4. The muffler of claim 1, wherein

the opening comprises a plurality of small holes  
formed in the elongated area.

25 5. The muffler of claim 2, wherein

the opening comprises a plurality of small holes  
formed in the elongated area.

6. The muffler of claim 3, wherein  
the opening comprises a plurality of small holes  
formed in the elongated area.

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7. The muffler of claim 1, wherein  
the opening comprises a slit formed in the elongated  
area.

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8. The muffler of claim 1, wherein  
the opening has an opening ratio in a range from 20%  
to 40%.

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9. The muffler of claim 2, wherein  
the opening has an opening ratio in a range from 20%  
to 40%.

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10. The muffler of claim 3, wherein  
the opening has an opening ratio in a range from 20%  
to 40%.

11. The muffler of claim 1, wherein  
the opening has an opening ratio of about 30%.

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12. The muffler of claim 2, wherein  
the opening has an opening ratio of about 30%.

13. The muffler of claim 3, wherein  
the opening has an opening ratio of about 30%.

14. The muffler of claim 4, wherein  
5 the small holes are substantially arranged at regular  
intervals in a main axis direction of the downstream pipe.

15. The muffler of claim 5, wherein  
the small holes are substantially arranged at regular  
10 intervals in a main axis direction of the downstream pipe.

16. The muffler of claim 6, wherein  
the small holes are substantially arranged at regular  
intervals in a main axis direction of the downstream pipe.